

CLASSIFICATION CONFIDENTIAL
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION FROM
FOREIGN DOCUMENTS OR RADIO BROADCASTS

REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY USSR
SUBJECT Military - Aircraft, order of battle

DATE OF INFORMATION 1953-1954

HOW PUBLISHED Daily newspaper, weekly periodical

DATE DIST. 29 Apr 1954

WHERE PUBLISHED Stockholm, Hamburg, Paris

NO. OF PAGES 2

DATE PUBLISHED 15 Nov 1953-31 Jan 1954

LANGUAGE Swedish, German, French

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO

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USSR AIR DEVELOPMENTS

NEW SOVIET JET BOMBER -- Stockholm, Dagens Nyheter, 21 Jan 54

Tactical bomber units of the USSR have been receiving an improved model of the Il-28 for several months. The aircraft industry has succeeded in getting the new Il-28-2 into mass production relatively quickly and about 200 of them have been delivered to units. To a great extent, the new type is similar to its predecessor, the Il-28, but its wings are swept back at an angle of 40 degrees. The Il-28-2 has releasable wing-tip tanks as standard equipment. These tanks are larger than those heretofore known but they have the same characteristic long shape with pointed ends. The fuselage is generally unchanged but the tail elevation is somewhat higher. The three-man crew consists of a pilot, radar-bombardier, and flight mechanic who also operates the plane's guns. The guns in the tail are remote controlled. The Il-28-2 has six 23-millimeter guns of standard type.

These new jet bombers are being delivered with radar equipment, indicating that the production of these instruments has been increased considerably. The maximum speed of the Il-28-2 is 1,000 kilometers per hour and the cruising speed is claimed to be 850 kilometers per hour. The operation ceiling is 12,500 meters and the radius of operation is 800 kilometers.

SOVIET AIR DEVELOPMENTS -- Paris, Danube-Press, 15 Nov 53

Soviet aviation is building an intercontinental bomber fleet. Until 3 years ago, the only long-distance plane was the TU-4, a copy of the American B-29 Superfortress. The TU-4, enlarged and improved, was developed into the Type 31, equipped with four turbojets of 5,500 horsepower each. It is produced at the rate of 60 per month. The four-motor-bomber fleet has reached 1,100 planes, but a large part of these are still the old TU-4s.

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A force of 400 TUG-75 (TU-200, super bombers is being established. The TUG-75 is a six-motor plane equipped with turbojets. It has a speed of 720 kilometers per hour and a radius of action of less than 10,000 kilometers. It is the only type capable of carrying a hydrogen bomb.

Soviet bomber squadrons are based in the Moscow region, in the north, in the Baltic states, and on Kamchatka.

Since 1949, the USSR has made intensive efforts to develop guided missiles, with the principal effort on the V-2. Accuracy has been improved and control is easier, owing to the use of an air brake which cuts down speed of descent. The M1 rocket with short, trapezoid wings is 5 meters high and weighs 500 kilograms. It is launched by three auxiliary rockets.

The Soviets have undertaken study of the former German project A-9 -- A-10, a two-stage rocket, whose range would exceed 4,000 kilometers.

SOVIET AIR FORCE TESTING NEW MIG -- Hamburg, Hamburger Abendblatt, 31 Dec 53

The Soviet Army Air Force is testing six new MIG models near Novosibirsk. They are a further development of the MIG-15 jet fighter and are designated as MIG-16 through MIG-21.

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